

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:)
Masaaki HATANO et al.)
Serial No.: Not Yet Assigned) Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
Filed: March 26, 2001) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

J1040 U.S. PTO
09/816177
03/26/01

188
#2 8-16-01
R. Stokes

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97(b), applicants bring to the Examiner's attention the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449. Copies of the listed documents are attached. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner consider the documents listed on attached Form PTO-1449 and indicate that they were considered by making an appropriate notation on this form.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed with the above-referenced application.

The following is a concise statement of relevance of the non-English language documents:

1. Japanese Patent Application No. 8-124925, discloses structure with TiN/Ti barrier metal between Cu and Al-plug.
2. Japanese Patent Application No. 11-121615, discloses structure of Cu-bump/Ti/TiN on Al-Si-Cu layer.

An English-language abstract of each document is enclosed.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in the application and applicants determine that the cited documents do not constitute "prior art" under United States law, applicants reserve the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.


Applicants further reserve the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Statement, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW,
GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

By:


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Dated: March 26, 2001
Enclosures
RVB/FPD/sci